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and other factors the average holding of the farmer is very minute. The author gives it as a trifle less than two and a half acres for each peasant, representing a family of five persons. It is not to be wondered at that the condition of the agricultural population, who embrace 71.23 per cent. of the population of "Old Japan," should excite some alarm, or that the fear should be expressed that the Japanese agriculturalist is in danger of becoming as real a proletarian as may be found in our centres of urban population. The author holds out, at the close of his work, a hope that improvement may come through a settlement of the northern islands, whose conditions vary essentially from the southern ones, which he describes under the name of "Old Japan."

The work is based on European and native sources. Where the former are used it is, of course, with a criticism which enhances the value of the citations. The work in general bears evidence of extensive reading, and abounds in interesting comparisons with European conditions.

R. P. F.

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AN INTRODUCTION TO THE HISTORY OF THE SCIENCE OF POLITICS.  
By SIR FREDERICK POLLOCK, Bart., M.A., Hon. LL.D. Edin.,  
Corpus Christi Professor of Jurisprudence in the University of  
Oxford; late fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge. Pp. x., 128.  
London and New York: Macmillan & Co., 1890.

THIS essay was delivered as a course of lectures at the Royal Institution, in 1882, and shortly afterward published as a series of articles in the *Fortnightly Review*. Circumstances, remarks Mr. Pollock in his preface, have compelled the publication of the articles in the present form, only such revision having been undertaken as was consistent with their original character. Those who have read Mr. Pollock's earlier work, entitled *Essays in Jurisprudence and Ethics*, were impressed with the thoroughness and thoughtfulness of his examination of the legal and ethical aspects of human society. In this latest work

we have the same evidences of wide and careful consideration of some of the most interesting phases of the science of politics.

There are four lectures in all, covering the whole field of political science, beginning with Plato and Aristotle, and ending with John Stuart Mill and Herbert Spencer. Within the small compass of 128 pages we have discussed the beginnings of political science, the influence of the Middle Ages and the *Renaissance*, the political thought of the eighteenth century and the Social Contract, and the different theories of sovereignty and of State intervention which have been brought forward within the present century. The first lecture deals with the place of politics among the sciences, the field of political science, and the condition of political thought in Greece previous to the Roman conquest. The next is taken up with an account of the political life of Europe subsequent to the fall of the Western Empire and the issues involved in the struggle between the Emperor and the Pope; the rise of the anti-ecclesiastical political philosophy, represented by Machiavelli, and the non-ecclesiastical school of Bodin and Grotius; the naturalistic school of Hobbes; and the origin of the Social Contract theory. In the third section we have an examination of the political speculations of Locke, Rousseau, Blackstone, Montesquieu, and Burke with reference to their bearing upon the nature and condition of political life in the eighteenth century. Mr. Pollock emphasizes very justly the work of Burke in furthering speculation along certain lines which unfortunately have not been given due recognition. The attitude of Burke toward the principles of 1789, his separation of Expediency from Legality, and his importance as a political philosopher are dwelt upon by our author in a manner which in some respects places Burke in a new light. Without a doubt, as Mr. Morley in his study of Burke has pointed out, Burke's contribution to solid political thought is an important one. The historic method, fitting in with cer-

tain dominant conceptions in the region of natural science, has brought men round to a way of looking at society for which many of Burke's maxims are exactly suited.

The last lecture deals with the development of the modern theories of sovereignty, and of the nature and functions of the State. We have here contrasted the different Continental schools of political thought, historical and ethical, and the English analytical school. The valuable work done for political speculation by the analytical jurists in clarifying thought and insisting on the separation of ethics, law, and politics is clearly set forth by Mr. Pollock. It is in this, he maintains, that the true character of English political science is to be found. Nevertheless, with all his appreciation of the work of this school, Mr. Pollock seems at times to go out of his way to give an unnecessary thrust at Bentham. Bentham's knowledge of human nature was bounded by certain well-defined limits; it was wholly empirical, and the empiricism of one who had little experience. His method, however, has worked a revolution in philosophy, and in law and politics he brought out into a strong light, cleared from a thousand confusions and misconceptions, and pointed out with admirable skill the best means of promoting, the principles of human action which underlie both. And to this, more than to anything else, English political thought owes whatever peculiar strength it has attained in these later days.

Despite the rather sketchy character of the different lectures, it can be said that Mr. Pollock's treatment of his subject never fails for lack of lucidity or interest. The work is an excellent example of the spirit of investigation which the younger men in England have carried into their studies in law, custom, and morality. Unsubstantial as Mr. Pollock says they are, these lectures on the history of political science as a whole can be spoken of with the heartiest praise.

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